

## FOURTH OF JULY!

## How It Was Celebrated in Honolulu.

Fun, Festivities, Fireworks, and Fashions.

The President of the Day and His Remarks.

Reading of the Declaration of Independence by Mrs. Hendry.

Oration by Dr. M. L. Ruth, U. S. N.

The Band, the Ball, and Minor Incidents of the Day.

The celebration of the Fourth of July was commenced on Tuesday evening, by the Royal Hawaiian band playing some American National Airs at the Palace and Hotel; a smaller band paraded the town till early morning, and fire crackers resounded throughout the night. At 5 o'clock yesterday morning the Antiques and Horribles at May's store, and headed by a band, paraded the principal streets of the city, calling on route at the White House, on Nuuanu Avenue, where refreshments were kindly supplied by the proprietor. They numbered about forty, and were dressed in original fantastic costumes, the most noticeable of which were the representations of a gallant military gentleman and his corps of local troops.

At 6 a.m. a salute of 13 guns was fired from the Esplanade battery, under the direction of His Excellency Governor Dominis. By this time everybody was thoroughly aroused, indeed it seemed as if but few could have taken a night's rest. All the business and private houses of every nationality were gallantly decorated with bunting, the shipping in harbor, especially the U. S. S. Essex and H. L. J. M. S. Ringo, being particularly pretty sight, each vessel being decorated from stem to stern.

At 10 o'clock the Hawaiian Band marched to the corner of Fort and Merchant streets, there awaiting the arrival of a detachment of sailors from the U. S. S. Essex, whom they escorted up Fort to Hotel Street, passing the prettily decorated residences of Drs. Macallister and Grossman, and Mrs. Macfarlane, before arriving at THE HAWAIIAN HOTEL.

Where the exercises of the day were to take place. The hotel was gallantly decorated with flags and the American National colors all along the balconies and tops of the corridors. During Tuesday night we regret to say that a number of small flags placed on the fences of Mrs. Macfarlane's house and the Hawaiian Hotel were stolen. Many ladies adopted the colors of the day with pretty effect; caps and cabmen seemed to vie with each other in the adornment of their vehicles and horses. Some considerable amusement was created by the discovery that most of the badges worn announced this as the 10th Anniversary of Independence, instead of the 107th. A roomy and suitable stand had been erected on the hotel lawn for the ladies and gentlemen taking part in the day's exercises. On the verandah of the hotel we noticed His Majesty the King, His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs, His Excellency the Minister of Finance, His Excellency Governor Dominis, the Captain and officers of the U. S. S. Essex, the members of the Diplomatic Corps, His Honor the Chief Justice, His Honor Associate Justice Austin, Marshal Parke, Captain Thomas Spencer, Hon. G. M. Whitney, Mr. and Mrs. Thorne, Dr. and Mrs. May, and besides a large number of other ladies and gentlemen. There must have been in all, nearly 3,500 persons present, including a large number of the seamen of the U. S. S. Essex and H. L. J. M. S. Ringo.

The Rev. G. W. Wallace opened proceedings with a short and impressive prayer.

## SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT.

The President of the Day, His Excellency Rollin M. Daggett, spoke as follows: *Fellow-Countrymen and Friends:* It is a pleasant privilege to call to order such an assemblage at such a time, at such a place, and for such a purpose. I see before me the representatives of almost all nationalities. Beside the American in the Englishman, the Frenchman, the German, the Portuguese, the Irishman, as well as the gentle Hawaiian, who comes with his kind aloha to the stranger within his gates. All have come to give countenance to the anniversary of the birth of human freedom on earth—to this day of days—and if not with the enthusiasm and devotion of the American, at least with a respect that it is well-nigh akin to them. Nor can I fail to note among this gallant gathering a number who represent that grand army of patriotic and sturdy men, who in a time of national peril bared their bosoms to the assaults of treason that the Republic might live, and this day might be celebrated forever. Among them are whitened locks and maimed limbs; but wherever I see them, either at home or abroad, a halo seems to surround their heads; and if ever I cease to be grateful to them for assisting in the salvation of a country whose worship to me is a religion, may heaven cease to be merciful to me; and if ever the country forgets their services, may heaven forget its blessing, for a nation without gratitude is a nation without heart, and a nation without heart, alike with an individual, is unfit to cumber the earth. (Applause.)

The great Commoner of Massachusetts said in substance, with a rhetoric almost divine, that the morning drum-beat of the British Empire rolled around the earth with the rising sun; so, one day, in the year at least, the American in the Englishman, the Frenchman, the German, the Portuguese, the Irishman, scattered everywhere throughout the earth, move round with the rising sun in a continuous hosanna; and here upon these Islands, between the east and west, we add our voices to the joyous anthem. (Hear, hear.)

My friends, I have sometimes found cause to complain that the chairman of a meeting has, in opening it, not only tramped upon my time, but—more serious still—upon my subject. Thus admonished,

we will proceed with the exercises of the day—the next in order being the reading of the Declaration of Independence. But first allow me to express the conviction of every American present, that it is the grandest document ever given by man to man. (Cheers.) It was the first national declaration that all men are created equal; that they are entitled to an equal share of the sunshine of heaven and the fruits of the earth; that they are equal before the law as they are equal before God. It has become the hope and inspiration of the struggling people of all the earth, and what was thought a hundred years ago to be the bold utterance of a desperate people warring for their rights, is now the political religion of every enlightened people.

The ancestors of the men who framed that document were those who wrung Magna Charta from King John and under the oaks of old England established the trial by jury; and when the fathers of the revolution took up arms against grievances that had become unendurable, they felt it their duty to justify their action in the eyes of God and man; and the verdict of men and angels was that the accused was guilty as charged in the august instrument. But few of those present have perhaps seen the original declaration—for a long time in the Patent Office, but now in the State Department, I believe. It is yellow with age, and many of the signatures to it are scarcely legible. The name of grand old John Hancock is among the brightest; but even that is growing dim; while those of Stephen Hopkins, whose hand was palsied but whose heart was iron (cheers), and others, are scarcely to be read, and all are steadily fading away. In noting this, a feeling of sadness steals into the patriotic heart. But I sometimes think it is better thus, for everything made with human hand must sooner or later pass away, and just as these immortal names fade from the earthly parchment, they grow brighter and brighter among the constellations above, where they are being pointed by the hand of the Recording Angel in lines of everlasting light. (Great cheering.)

Mr. Daggett's remarks were received with much applause. The Hawaiian Band having played a few selections.

Mrs. E. R. Hendry, in a clear and impressive voice, read the Declaration of Independence. We congratulate Mrs. Hendry upon her undoubted success, her voice being plainly heard on the verandah, notwithstanding the difficulties under which she labored in having to speak out of doors, and when some little stir was occasionally apparent.

"The Star Spangled Banner" was then sung by Mrs. Simmons, Mrs. Dickson, Miss Fillebrown, Messrs. W. Hall, McCarty, J. L. Ross, and W. Clark, the assemblage joining in the chorus.

Dr. M. L. Ruth of the U. S. S. Essex then delivered the following ORATION:

*Ladies and Gentlemen:* A few weeks ago, amid the booming of guns and the mournful strains of requiem bands, the ashes of an American who, from his sad heart, had poured out a strain which is dear to all the world, were borne in funeral procession to the City Hall at New York, there to lie in state. The honors paid to the remains of the author of "Home, Sweet Home," the funeral cortege, the booming guns, the train of mourners, the wreaths of flowers, and the sympathetic tears, were not given entirely to the man, but to the author of the song which appeals more than any other, in any language, to the heart of man; and all the pomp and circumstance of that day told the one story; that wherever we may wander, be it to the lands of ice and snow, or to the region where the sun sheds its direct ray, to the farthest ocean, or to where the Oriental lives his hazy life, our thoughts always turn to the land of our birth. We are not particular in this; even those whose native lands lie prostrate under the heel of despotism, or whose liberties are crippled by laws which are harsh and grinding, look, when they are absent, with longing eyes toward their home. If this be true of them, how much more it is true of us whose land is here, the land of the free, the land of the brave, and whose country is as free as the ocean which beats upon this island.

Neither time nor distance can erase the love of country from our hearts, and to-day, on this island, this speck in the vast contiguity of waters, we, Americans, meet to show the world that although thousands of miles separate us, we are not ununited of the land which bears, and the voice of those whom we love, and whose country is as free as the ocean which beats upon this island.

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Then the flame burst forth, and George and his Ministers found that a fire had been kindled which was so fierce that no power of their could put it out. No, no power of theirs, nor of any other—for that flame was the beacon light of liberty, and it has burned brighter and brighter as the years have rolled on.

It is a fire which has been fed by opposition. A flame that has been nourished by blood. A light which will not be bid, and which has not only illumined our wondrous pathway, but which has shed its gentle and vivifying rays on other countries, which, before our time, had been lying in the midnight gloom of political slavery.

Our forefathers had unconsciously imbibed the elixir of liberty—that subtle essence which cannot be defined, but which is borne of the grandeur of nature, and, in some strange and marvelous manner, sinks into the heart of him who communes with the master works of the Creator.

They were not eager to quarrel; in fact, they

did all that men could do to avert a struggle with those to many of them seemed paralytic, but, when the hour had come, they roused from their lethargy, like giants refreshed with new wine, and knew neither rest nor sleep until the glorious end had come, and liberty was theirs, not only in name, but in fact. And now, when the kindred years have closed the wounds made by the bloody hand of war, we sometimes fail to remember the anguish and suffering of those who fought to save us. Therefore I should like to refresh your memories by a recital of some of the principal acts of the revolution, and by word portraits of the grand men who bore on their shoulders the brunt of foreign attack and home dissension.

But time will permit only a cursory glance at the eventful panorama. Suffice it to say that from the hour when the Boston boys threw the tea into the harbor until the day when Cornwallis gave up his sword to Washington, the fight went on. It was like the irresistible tide; it ebbed and flowed. Now in the far north, where Arnold (let us give the traitor what meet of praise we can), nearly drove the British from Canada; now in New York where the Continentals, opposed by Howe, were forced on the Delaware, and, finally, after their rout at Brandywine, to their cheerless and ice-bound camp at Valley Forge; now surrounding Burgoyne on the heights of Saratoga, and gathering aid and comfort for the surrender of his forces—an event, which I may say in passing, called forth from the clasp of the British their last tribute to America: "You cannot conquer America. If I were an American as I am an Englishman, while a foreign troop was landed in my country, I would never lay down my arms. Never! never! never!" Now fighting against Cornwallis in the south; now weakened by bankruptcy and disheartened by the lack of expected aid from France; now cheered by the defection of Sir Henry Clinton, the arrival of the French fleet, men, arms, and money, and finally achieving success by cooping up Cornwallis at Yorktown, and forcing him to surrender his whole army to the victorious Washington.

This last stroke was the finishing blow, for the news of that victory reached England at the same time the couriers arrived with the intelligence of the revolt in Ireland. The double blow was too much. Lord North resigned, and as the historian Greene remarks, "in the face of such a rising at home, it became plain to the most dogged of Tories that it was impossible to continue a strife across three thousand miles of sea."

And thus it was that England, because reconciled to the fact that the American Colonies "were, and of right ought to be, free and independent States."

Far able tongues than mine have spoken the praises of the great central figures of the revolution, but one tribute has lately been paid to Washington, and that, too, by an Englishman which is so complete, so touching and so true that I cannot forbear giving it to you. It is by the historian John Richard Greene, a man whose death not only the English nation, but the whole world of literature has lately had reason to deplore. He says in his history of the English people speaking of Washington: "No nobler figure ever stood in the forefront of a nation's life. Washington was grave and courteous in address; his manners were simple and unpretending; his silence and the serene calmness of his temper spoke of a perfect self-mastery; but there was little in his outer bearing, to reveal the grandeur of soul which lifts his figure out of all the smaller passions, the meaner impulses of the world around him."

It was only as the weary fight went on that the Colonists discovered, however slowly and imperfectly, the greatness of their leader, his clear judgment, his heroic endurance, his silence under difficulties, his calmness in the hour of danger, or defeat; the patience with which he waited, the quickness and hardness with which he struck, the lofty and serene sense of duty that never swerved from its track through resentment or jealousy, that never, through war or peace, felt the touch of a meaner ambition, that knew of no aim except that of guarding the freedom of his fellow-countrymen, and so on. He was the voice of those whom he loved, and whose country is as free as the ocean which beats upon this island.

It was almost unconsciously that men learned to cling to Washington, with a trust and faith such as few other men have won, and to regard him with a reverence which still hushes us in the presence of his memory. But even Americans hardly recognized his true greatness while he lived. It was only when death, as his seal on him, that the voices of those whom he loved so long, proclaimed him: "The man first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen." But let us turn from the American Revolution to the America of to-day. We started with everything before us bankrupt alike in money and friends, with nothing to help us but our own hands, our own brains, and a sublime faith in the rectitude of our intentions toward each other and toward the general world.

Have we fulfilled the hopes of our founders, or have we, in our later years, fallen with the decrepitude and languor of old age? Have the caustic prophecies of Macaulay, who predicted that we would fall to pieces broken by our own weight, or the cynical criticisms of Dickens, who, when he visited us, could find nothing good, but everything bad, or the clever sarcasms of Thackeray, who, with all his wonderful gifts, seemed always to gloom over the frailties of our national nature, or the bitter, almost malignant stings of Carlyle, been deserved? Let us look around us and see. On July 4th, 1776, we were a handful of people, so poor in numbers as to be counted for nothing in the grand aggregate of the world's population. What are we now? The last census ticks us off at 52,000,000, and by this time we have added 3,000,000 more, making us in round numbers 55,000,000 of people. It is difficult to realize what this means. We can only do it by comparison. It means a population greater than that of any nation on the earth, except China and Russia. Ten millions more than England, the mother country, 10,000,000 more than France, whose generous aid helped us to victory when defeat was impending; 7,000,000 more than Germany, whose hard working people have contributed so much toward our advancement and prosperity; 12,000,000 more than Austria, and as many more than Italy.

The semi-civilized nations only surpass us, and they must look to their leaders, who are babies come up by the hundred thousands, and every day of the year, Sundays and all, a constant stream of from two to three thousand people from the other shore land upon our own. Attracted by the clear bright flame of liberty they come like vast flocks of moths toward the light, but not like moths to have their wings singed, and to drop to cruel death in the flame; but like them to pray upon our goods and homes, to find shelter and peace, and a home beneath a banner which is powerful enough and willing enough to protect them against any who may assail. The mind is staggered by the contemplation of such increase. When will it end and the pessimists? Will not the whole country in a few years be so packed with human beings that men will be compelled to fight for room and breathing place? No, far from it. The capac-

ity of our noble land is so great that the whole population of the world might almost settle in it and find ample room. It is so grand that every soul in the United States at the present time could live comfortably and have a garden as big as any of the great Western States. No one can give everyone two acres of ground, and still have enough left over to accommodate a million or two more. No, there is no fear of our being over-crowded; there is ample room for ourselves, our children and our children's children, and there is plenty, not only for ourselves and our descendants, but for the millions who care to tempt the seas for the sake of the freedom we offer them; and when the other reason for our being here is removed, we need not fear that we will be crowded for space, when we want more room, our friendly neighbors on the north and south will be only too glad to receive and welcome our overflow.

Are we a poor nation? Well, poverty has not its skeleton hand on us as yet. "Sharp penury has not yet worn us to the bones." Our raiment is not entirely ragged. We still have bread, and now and then a bit of meat. We plod along with a daily income of about \$1,000,000; we pay our debts too fast to suit our creditors. Our paper is worth more than its face, and our land is so full of gold that the treasurer is at his wit's end to know where to store that which is piling up. We owe less than \$34 apiece, and we could pay that to-morrow if we wished, and if our creditors could be induced to take the money. No, we are not poor; it would be better for us, I sometimes think if we were not so rich. The knowledge of possessing so much material wealth is, I fear, sapping our national strength and making us less jealous of our national honor.

There was a time when we would not stand still in inaction, much less in idleness, but now we are so rich that we are hard to arouse, argue slumbers deep, and resentment has been dragged by gold, at least so it seems, but after all, the lethargy is but seeming. A sharp shock would stir us into our old-time activity. A threat would cause us to shake ourselves beneath our mountain of gold, and perhaps ruin the aggressor by the weight of the metal. There may, too, be another reason for our inactivity. We are a giant, and therefore good-natured. We rather laugh at the growlings of puny powers, and smile at the threatnings of those whom we could wipe out of existence at a single blow. The other day, when a South American power was showing her teeth and talking war, we didn't even answer back, because we knew that if worst came to worst, if the infuriated nation dared raise its head, we could take each one of its people and throw them into the sea, and yet not stir the men we sent to do it, nor know that they had left our borders. No, my friends, the vaults of jealous powers that the Yankees will not fight have been too often answered by bloody death to be regarded by us now. "Are the Yankees cowards?" yelled the men of Massachusetts, as the red British line went reeling and broken down the slopes of Bunker Hill. That question was answered then, and since that time on the sanguinary fields of Mexico, and by a thousand counter-attacks, we have shown that we are not cowards. We are a giant, and therefore good-natured. We rather laugh at the growlings of puny powers, and smile at the threatnings of those whom we could wipe out of existence at a single blow. 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